

**Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, 03.30.16**  
**Merrimack Town Hall, Memorial Conference Room**  
**7:00pm**

Attendees: Chris Christensen, Laura Jaynes, Jackie Flood, Christine Lavoie, Rick Greenier – MYA, Cinda Guagliumi – School Board and Michelle Cushman

Parks and Recreation Director: Matt Casparius

Absent:

Excused: Dan Ricker, Julie Poole, Melissa Kowalewski, Nick Kropelin, Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club and Dan Dwyer – Town Council

Public: Woody Thornton, Tom Boland, John Raymond, Ryan Maillot, Corey Hartson and Todd Anderson

Start time: 7:00pm

1 Open Meeting/Introduction

2 Approval of minutes from February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

- Jackie Flood made the motion to accept the February Meeting Minutes
- Rick Greenier 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 6-0-1 motion passed

3 New Business

- Review of complaint regarding Martel Field – Woody Thornton to represent neighbors near field
  - Reviewed Mission Statement of the Parks and Recreation Committee with extra review of the part “enhancing the quality of life”
  - Only one access to Martel Field with no lights on Atherton Rd
  - Complaints are loitering, waste disposal, lights are not off at 10pm, the members/roasters aren’t controlled and unsafe road ways due to traffic from mostly “Men’s Softball” games
  - Woody Thornton proposed solutions for above complaints (see attached)
  - Chris Christensen said Matt Casparius checked with the Police Department and there were 3 complaints for this area
  - Chris Christensen was concerned that generalizing all Men’s Softball Teams might be limiting as to anyone else that might be contributing to the complaints
  - Chris Christensen was concerned about the lights needing to be on to allow for cleanup and should be pointing to the fields
  - Chris Christensen asked if a Merrimack based company has non Merrimack members on its team could they still use the field and the answer is yes they can use the field
  - Jackie Flood asked how long has the field been used for Men’s and Women’s teams
  - Jackie Flood said we should address the car, trash and roaster complaints
    - Ryan Maillot, the State Director of UTSSA, said the field has been used for a very long time

- Ryan Maillot said there is Deed in place for Martel for the field to be used to adult softball
- Ryan Maillot thought curfew was 11 pm not 10pm
- John Raymond, from the Men's Softball League, said the games don't always start on time
- John Raymond said they adopted the rule that lights out 30 min past end of last game
- Tom Boland, from the Men's Softball League, said the schedule has been in place for many years, they take time to clean up after the games and getting the left field lights off as soon as possible
- Tom Boland is concerned about a timer on the lights because of safety concerns and the ability to clean up after the games
- Tom Boland said the Men's Softball League has gotten better over the years with the resident's near the field
- Tom Boland would like to revisit the 80/20 rule of residents and non residents
- Chris Christensen asked if the traffic issues and the blocked entrance started around the same time
- Chris Christensen asked if we could check with the DPW and the Police Department on controlling the through traffic
- Cinda Guagliumi asked if we had rules around what is the end time
- Matt Casparius said town policy is 10pm for the end time
- Rick Greenier and Chris Christensen said we need more information regarding when the fields are
- Rick Greenier asked what happens on Tuesday's and Thursday's night – would they be an option
- Ryan Maillot said the trash is picked up after the Saturday Men's Softball tournaments games
- Ryan Maillot and other members have put effort into cleaning up the concession stand over the years
- Cinda Guagliumi asked what the problem is with the parking and if we can get those parking spots back
- Jackie Flood suggested that after everyone meets if we could have a report back to the Parks and Recreation Committee
- Matt Casparius said they did make the offer to the MYA to use the field on Sundays

#### 4 Old Business

- Update from the Friends of the Merrimack Dog Park - Christine Lavoie
  - Request for use of funds
    - \$39.82 for flyers for dog licenses
    - Christine Lavoie made the motion to approve the \$39.82 request for funds
    - Laura Jaynes 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
    - 7-0-0 motion passed

- Balance is \$29,170
- \$280.25 has been raised through fundraising efforts
- Next step is to go out to bid
- Athletic Field Needs Review - Rick Greenier
  - See attachment for Rick Greenier's MYA Field Needs Assessment Review

## 5 Director's Report - Matt Casparius

- Budget Update
  - Establishing a Recreation Revolving Fund will be on ballot on April 12th
- Summer Camp Update
  - 270 registrations so far
- Wasserman Park Improvements Update
  - Water line and heating system are now complete
  - Waiting for bids to come back for sprinkler system work next and then can rent out the Function Hall
  - Cabin 15 and Old Wasserman House are now down
- 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt
  - Held on March 19<sup>th</sup> about 800 people and 4000 Easter Eggs
- Skateboard Park
  - Will opening soon after some repairs are complete
- Summer Concert Series
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Concert Series will be June 22<sup>nd</sup> – August 17<sup>th</sup>
- Summer Movie Nights
  - Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> will be a free movie night at Watson Park
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  - Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> with fireworks on July 9<sup>th</sup> and volunteers are needed
- Miscellaneous Updates
  - Spring/Summer Parks and Recreation Brochure will be coming out on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Published article of the benefits of sending your children to summer camp has been published by Camp Navigator which can be found online
  - Disk Golf Update for Wasserman Park is that Chris Mergemekes and Nat Fairbanks are leading fundraiser efforts for approximate \$14000 needed, and approximately \$1,100 has been raised
  - Moving back to Wasserman Park around first or second week of April

## 6 Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall - not present
- MYA - Rick Greenier
  - Softball, baseball, Soccer and Lacrosse are about to kick out
  - Date of Parade for Softball will be Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Some executive board elections are next meeting
- Town Council –Dan Dwyer – not present
- School Board – Cinda Guagliumi
  - Graduation date is June 11<sup>th</sup>

## 7 Comments from the Public - was nothing

8 Comments from the Committee - was nothing

- Christine Lavoie asked if a Police detail might be a suggestion for the Martel Field complaints
- Matt Casparius will go back to the Town Council for the Rules and Fees for the Function Hall at Wasserman Park

9 Future Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

10 Adjourn at 8:30pm

- Rick Greenier made the motion to adjourn at 8:30pm
- Christine Lavoie 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 7-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Cushman